Amount released under IDSMT scheme to Karnataka

116. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released to Karnataka under Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns since 1996-97, till date;

(b) whether Karnataka has requested Government to convert the loan released under IDSMT as 100 per cent grant; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Central Assistance amounting to Rs. 2155.58 lakhs has been released under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) scheme to Karnataka State since 1996-97 till date.

(b) and (c) The State Government has requested the Central Government to convert the loans released prior to 1996-97 under the IDSMT scheme into 100 per cent grant but the request could not be acceded to as it is not permissible under the IDSMT scheme guidelines. However, the entire Central assistance is being released as grant in respect of towns covered from 1996-97 onwards as per revised guidelines issued in August, 1995.

Slum Free Mega-Cities and Metro-Cities

117. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have framed a National Slum Policy;

(b) if so, the details of the policy;

(c) the details of the mega-cities and metro-cities expected to be made slum free and by when, State-wise;

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred in this regard, State-wise;

(e) the houses to be constructed annually and by when it is expected to be completed, State-wise; and